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House Speaker John Boehner's getting support from an unusual ally — an up-and-coming progressive Democrat — in his fight for more information about the Obama administration's involvement in Libya.

"I write today with concerns over the cost of 'Operation Odyssey Dawn' in Libya," Rep. Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) wrote to President Obama on Thursday. "I echo many of Speaker Boehner's concerns ... that we owe our constituents an accounting of the cost of these operations."

In his own harshly worded letter to the president on Wednesday, Boehner demanded greater clarity from the White House on its goals for the mission in Libya and the costs to the American public.

Braley, chairman of the Populist Caucus, is most concerned with the latter.

"As you're well aware, the current level of federal spending and our national deficit is unsustainable, and as we work to withdraw from our involvement in two other conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, I firmly believe that American taxpayers deserve a full accounting of the additional burden of a third conflict," Braley wrote. "With that in mind, how much has Operation Odyssey Dawn, and any supporting functions, cost taxpayers to date, and what is the daily cost for continued operations?"

Braley also asked the president to detail his plans for a transition from U.S. leadership of the coalition bombarding Libya to another one of the nation's partners in the effort.

A Gallup poll released Wednesday shows that 47 percent of respondents favor the president's action, while 37 percent are opposed — the lowest favorability rating for Gallup's first poll of any recent U.S. military action.